

50X1-HUM

3 January 1947

COUNTRY : Bulgaria/USSR

SUBJECT : Arrival of Soviet Families

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1. During the first two weeks in October more arrivals of Soviet families in Bulgaria were noted. About 2,000 of these families are located in Sofia and its suburbs. There is a large percentage of unmarried persons. The total number involved in the new influx into Sofia is estimated at approximately 5,000 persons. the Ministry of War has been instructed to find accommodation for 2,000 Soviet civilians who have arrived practically en bloc in Sofia. Several people have had Russians billeted with them although they had less room than the law permitted.

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2. It is reported that about 6,000 Russians have settled in northern Bulgaria. Of these eighty per cent are in the district of Plaven and the neighboring towns of Gorna Mitropolia and Dolna Mitropolia, in Gorni Dabnik and Dolni Dabnik, as well as at the stud horse farm of Kabinik and in Makhlata.

3. Large numbers of houses are being requisitioned throughout Bulgaria, especially in the Dobrudja area. The number for Plovdiv has been reported as 5,000 apartments and houses.

4. All these immigrants received special ration cards for food and clothing. Among them are a number of engineers of both sexes who are to be employed on plans for the new frontier fortifications. They will go to the Greek-Bulgarian frontier to assist the military engineers who have been working on the lines of barbed wire and fortifications for six months.

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SECRET/CONTROL